

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR  
THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MISS  
JOHNNIE WHITELAW

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a long-time community servant, a dedicated teacher and historian, and my friend, Miss Johnnie Whitelaw.

In more than 20 years of knowing Johnnie, I have grown to see how important she is to our community in Dyersburg and how much she is loved by her friends, former students and neighbors throughout West Tennessee. An active leader of the Dyer County Democratic Party, Johnnie was also a teacher and librarian from 1972 to 1991.

Even after retiring, however, she did not give up on one of her greatest loves—collecting oral, photographic and written first-hand accounts of history so that we and future generations will forever understand the history of West Tennessee and the stories of its people. Her contributions will truly be appreciated for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I hope you and all our colleagues will join me in congratulating Miss Johnnie Whitelaw on her upcoming honor from the Dyer County branch of the NAACP, Delta Sigma Theta sorority, Community Resource Development and Order of the Eastern Star, organizations which understand how valuable Miss Johnnie's contributions have been to our community.

HONORING THE TINICUM  
TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. JOE SESTAK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tinicum Township and the Tinicum Township Fire Department on the opening of their new firehouse.

The Tinicum Township Firehouse, named Station 48, will be home to the recently merged Essington and Lester Fire Companies. After several years of planning, the township's hard work has produced a state of the art facility that will serve the community for years to come.

The opening of Station 48 represents a new chapter in public safety for the township of Tinicum. Both the Lester and Essington Fire Companies have a long history of heroic and dedicated service. Combining them under one roof will maximize their ability to provide the entire township with coordinated fire protection services.

It is my honor to have been a part of the Tinicum Township Fire Company's ribbon cutting ceremony this past Saturday. It is important to recognize the brave men and women who volunteer their time to protect our communities. Through the years, their names and faces have changed, but the commitment and pride with which they serve has persevered.

The members of the Essington and Lester Fire Companies have selflessly served the community while balancing their full-time ca-

reers and families, and will continue to do so at Station 48. I ask everyone to join me in commending the members of the Tinicum Township Fire Company and to congratulate them on the dedication of their new firehouse.

HONORING DANIEL JESUS  
BERMEJO

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel Jesus Bermejo of Faucett, Missouri. Daniel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Daniel has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel Jesus Bermejo for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO NORTHWEST INDIANA'S  
MOST DEDICATED AND  
HARDWORKING INDIVIDUALS

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008—*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I offer congratulations to several of Northwest Indiana's most dedicated and hardworking individuals. On Saturday, January 12, 2008, the Hammond Letter Carriers Organization, Hammond Merged Branch 580 of the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) recognized its retiring members for 2007, and they also honored members with at least 50 years of service. The event was held at the Patrician banquet hall in Schererville, Indiana.

At this year's banquet, the organization recognized the following retirees for their commitment and their many years of outstanding service to their communities: Kenneth Durall, William Harper, Judy Krause, Roger Reins, Frank Robinson, Tim Rutz, and Audrey Simpson. I wish them all the best of health and happiness in the years to come.

Also honored at the event for their many years of membership in the organization were: Marlin Bossard (65 years), John Schlesinger (60 years), Nolan Camp (58 years), Joe Watson (57 years), Bell Anderson (56 years), Ray Breshock (54 years), Ben Dotson (54 years), Richard Barnard (50 years), and Joseph Pressnell (50 years).

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its workforce. These individuals are an outstanding representation of the work ethic present in Northwest Indiana. They have demonstrated their loyalty to each other and to

their communities through their hard work and selfless dedication.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring these dedicated and hardworking individuals. They have committed themselves to the people of Northwest Indiana, and I am very proud to represent them in Washington, DC.

HONORING RETIRING HAMBURG  
TOWN COUNCILMAN MARK  
CAVALCOLI

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mark Cavalcoli, a longtime public servant whose retirement at the end of this year will mark the close of a distinguished career in elective office that has spanned nearly two and a half decades.

Mark began his public service as a biology teacher, working 33 years at Frontier Central High School before retiring in 1997.

In 1983 Mark was first elected to serve on the Hamburg Town Board, where he worked to improve and protect Hamburg's unique character. Throughout his tenure the Councilman was deeply involved in waterfront development, greenspace preservation, regional cooperation, and local master planning.

A natural negotiator and leader, Mark acted as the liaison between the town board and several departments and also functioned as Deputy Supervisor for 15 years.

Of all the great accomplishments, one of Councilman Cavalcoli's proudest is working to provide public water to nearly 300 homes not connected to water lines and severely restricted in their water use.

Despite his deep involvement on the town board and his commitment to his wife and two children, Mark still found time to further serve his community as a member of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Columbus, PTAs for Frontier and Hamburg High Schools and as the Chairman of the Eighteen Mile Creek Preservation Committee.

In 2007, Mark Cavalcoli chose not to run for re-election and instead will spend time traveling with Anne, his wife of 45 years.

The Town of Hamburg is a better place because of Councilman Mark Cavalcoli's years of dedication. This community is fortunate to have benefited from his leadership, and I am grateful, Madam Speaker, that you have allowed me this opportunity to commemorate his service here today.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL PATTERSON  
FOR SAVING THE LIFE OF  
AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Michael Patterson whose heroic actions helped save the life of Chad Hostnick,